

Abstract

Backpressure information is communicated from a physical layer device to a link layer device in a communication system by generating a flow control message in the physical layer device responsive to a detected condition relating to at least a given one of a plurality of queues of the physical layer device, and transmitting the flow control message from the physical layer device to the link layer device. The flow control message may comprises backpressure information associated with a given egress queue of the physical layer device and is transmitted from the physical layer device to the link layer device as an in-band message over an interface between the physical layer device and the link layer device. Multiple-rate traffic shaping or other types of traffic shaping may be provided responsive to the flow control message.